The 28th Annual MELUS Conference
Oklahoma City, OK, March 6-9, 2014
Program Schedule

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

Registration 12:00-6:00, 2nd floor landing
Book Exhibits, Grand Ballroom Reception, 12:00-5:00

SESSION I: 1:30-3:00

A. Ethnic Women Writers and Gender Binaries, *Centennial 1,* 1:30-3:00

Moderator: Alison Graham Bertolini, North Dakota State University

Shirley A. (Holly) Stave, Louisiana Scholars' College, Northwestern State University. "Disrupting the Gendered Binary in Toni Morrison's *Home*" (stavesh@nsula.edu)

Rachel Long, Missouri State University. "Postmodern Rewrites of Chicana/o Folkloric Figures in Ana Castillo's *So Far From God*" (rachel311@live.missouristate.edu)

Alison Graham Bertolini, North Dakota State University. "The Twinning of Cultural Identities in Marilyn Chin's *Revenge of the Mooncake Vixen*" (alison.bertolini@ndsu.edu)

B. New Perspectives on Ethnic Cityscapes, *Centennial 3*, 1:30-300

Moderator: Patrick Nacik, Coe College

Jean Alger, Oklahoma State University. "Urban Ethnography and Migration in the Work of Langston Hughes" (alger@ostatemail.okstate.edu)

Jay Whitaker, Oklahoma State University. "Humor, Allegory, and Intellectual Sovereignty in Sherman Alexie's *Ten Little Indians*" (jewhita@ostatemail.okstate.edu)

Patrick Nacik, Coe College. "Flocking to Harlem: Bird Imagery and the City in Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man* and Toni Morrison's *Jazz*" (pnaick@coe.edu)

C. "Going to the Territory": Cultural Hybridity in Red, White, and Black Oklahoma, *Salon A*, 1:30-3:00

Moderator: Tol Foster

Catherine Foreman Gray, History and Preservation Officer, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. "Cherokee Law, Federal Outlaw: Teasing the Truth from Fiction in Considering Zeke Proctor and Ned Christie" (catherine-gray@cherokee.org)

Tol Foster, Marquette University-Milwaukee. "'*We don't want it on any goddam map'*: Ralph Ellison's Multiracial Frontier and the Dangers of Legibility in the Nadir Period" (tolfoster@gmail.com)

Shannon Toll, University of Oklahoma. "How Can We Know the Dancer from the Dance? Maria Tallchief, the Firebird" (sctoll@ou.edu)

Joshua B. Nelson, University of Oklahoma. "Power in the Blood: Boundary Crossing and Bloodletting in Randy Redroad's *The Doe Boy*" (joshuabnelson.ou.edu)

D. Ideas of Kinship, *Salon C*, 1:30-3:00

Moderator: Mark Griffin, Oklahoma City University

Olena McLaughlin, Oklahoma State University. "Crossing Borders: Sherman Alexie's Short Story *Do Not Go Gentle* 'Stuffed' with Ideas" (gorelov@ostatemail.okstate.edu)

Cassie Hemstrom, University of Nevada. "What We Come From: Kinship, Race and Class" (chemstrom@unr.edu)

Mevi Hova, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. "Redefining the Black Diaspora: Identity and Migration Narratives in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Americanah*" (brinono@hotmail.com)

E. Ellisonian Cultural Contexts, *Crystal Room*, 1:30-3:00

Moderator: Robert Jackson, University of Tulsa

Robert Jackson, University of Tulsa. "Ellison and Midcentury Modernism" (bob-jackson@utulsa.edu)

Grant Matthew Jenkins, University of Tulsa. "'Out There in Greenwood': Contextualizing the Battle Royal" (grant-jenkins@utulsa.edu)

Amelia Williamson, University of Tulsa. "'A Blue Dream; A Dream I Was Dreaming': Consciousness, Narrative, and Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*" (amelia-williamson@utulsa.edu)

SESSION II: 3:30-4:45

A. Queer Sexualities in Ethnic American Literatures, *Centennial 1*, 3:30-4:45

Moderator: Patrick Lawrence, University of Connecticut

Danny M. Hoey, Indian River State College. "Where is my Territory? Masculinity, Sexuality, and the Quest for 'Space'" (dhoey@irsc.edu)

Patrick Lawrence, University of Connecticut. "Predatory Blindness: Coercive Specularity in Cherrie Moraga's *Giving Up the Ghost*" (patrick.lawrence@uconn.edu)

Trever Holland, Oklahoma State University. "Queer Voodoo: Zora Neale Hurston's Opposition to Heteronormativity in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*" (trever.holland@okstate.edu)

B. Aggressive Gestures: Literary Constructions of Race and Ethnicity, *Centennial 2*, 3:30-4:45

Moderator: S.C. Gooch, Purdue University

Marc Dziak, Purdue University. "Irishness, Violence, and the Making of Gender in Stephen Crane's *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*" (mdziak@purdue.edu)

Adryan Glasgow, Purdue University. "Postracial White Women: Depicting the Disavowel of Race in Chang Rae Lee's Novels" (adryan@purdue.edu)

Mary Couzelis, Texas A&M University-Commerce. "Maintaining Ethnic Barriers in Adolescent Internment Fiction" (mjcouzelis@hotmail.com)

C. Women Writers Crossing Boundaries, *Centennial 3*, 3:30-4:45

Moderator: Marie Drews, Georgia Regents University

Dalia Gomaa, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. "Towards a Transnational Reading of Narratives by Arab-American Women Writers" (dmgomaa@uwm.edu)

Lin Knutson, Mississippi Valley State University. "Mapping Animals as Cultural Capital in Cherrie Moraga" (Lin.knutson@mvsu.edu)

Marie Drews, Georgia Regents University. "'Isn't it queer you and me should be such friends': Gender Subversion and the Lesbian Existence in Winnifred Eaton's *Cattle*" (mdrews@gru.edu)

D. Native Authors Negotiating Binaries, *Salon A*, 3:30-4:45

Moderator: Michael Snyder, Oklahoma City Community College

Amanda Cobb-Greetham, Oklahoma State University. "The Unexpected Indian in Welch's *The Heartstrong of Charging Elk*" (amanda.cobb_greetham@okstate.edu)

Julie Williams, University of New Mexico. "Cosmopolitanism in Native Historical Fiction" (juliew@unm.edu)

Michael Snyder, Oklahoma City Community College. "Goin' Back to the Territory: The Osage Homecoming of John Joseph Mathews" (msnyder@occc.edu)

E. Religious Turns and Detours in Ethnic US Literatures, *Salon B*, 3:30-4:45

Moderator: J. Stephen Pearson, University of North Georgia-Gainesville

Ari Hoffman, Harvard University. "Renew Our Days as of Old: The Religious Turn in Contemporary Jewish Fiction" (hoffman2@fas.harvard.edu)

Christine Payson, Tufts University. "Relocation, Assimilation, and the Native American Church in *House Made of Dawn*" (chris.payson@gmail.com)

Christopher Bell, University of North Georgia-Gainesville. "The Good Christian's Role in Latter Plays of August Wilson's Century Cycle" (Chris.Bell@ung.edu)

Dessie Mae Sanders, Dillard University. "Dating Jesus: African American Women and Subjectivity" (dsanders@dillard.edu)

F. Delineating New Spaces, Asserting Voices, *Salon B*, 3:30-4:45

Moderator: Regina Clemens Fox, Oklahoma City University

Manahari Adikari, Northern Illinois University. "Regaining Sanity and Life through Love in Leslie Marmon Silko's *Ceremony*: An Existential Perspective" (mana_hari@hotmail.com)

Melissa Birkhofer, University of North Dakota. Invisibility and Being Seen: Echoes of Ellison in Lamberto Roque Hernandez's *Here I Am* (melissa.birkhofer@email.und.edu)

Erin L. Alvarez, Michigan State University. Uncovering Narratives: The Chicana Literary Desert of Central California (alvare89@msu.edu)

G. Other Oklahomas, Crystal Room, 3:30-4:45

Moderator: Jeanetta Calhoun Mish, Oklahoma City University

Sharon Jessee, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. "'Discovering with Some Surprise We're From': Remembering Segregated OKC with Clara Luper, Ralph Ellison, and Toni Morrison" (sjessee@uwlax.edu)

Abigail Horne, Washington University-St. Louis. "Lasso Rope or Lynching Rope? Will Rogers and Lynching in America" (athorne@wustl.edu)

Michele Fazio, University of North Carolina at Pembroke. "Reimagining Sicily: Memory, Mobility, and Place in Woody Guthrie's Ballads" (michele.fazio@uncp.edu)

5:00-6:30 WELCOME RECEPTION, VENETIAN ROOM, 14th floor
Complimentary wines generously provided by Oxford University Press

6:30-6:45 BUSSES DEPART FROM HOTEL FOR Oklahoma City University CAMPUS

7:30 PM HENRY LOUIS GATES, "FINDING YOUR ROOTS"
Freede Center, Oklahoma City University, NW 27th and N. Florida

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

Continental Breakfast 7:30-8:30 AM, Grand Ballroom Reception
Registration 8:00-5:00, 2nd floor landing
Book Exhibits, all day, Grand Ballroom Reception

SESSION I: 8:30-10:00

A. Transcultural Narratives and New Identities, *Centennial 1*, 8:30-10:00

Moderator: Richard C. Taylor, East Carolina University

Richard C. Taylor, East Carolina University. "Obama-Era America in Adichie's *Americanah* and Bulawayo's *We Need New Names*" (TAYLORR@ecu.edu)

Swathi Sreerangarajan, University of Pittsburgh. "Ethnic Personal Affect and *Bodies in Motion*" (shs104.pitt@gmail.com)

B. Performance and Ethnic American Identities, *Centennial 2*, 8:30-10:00

Moderator: JoAnne Ruvoli, Ball State University

Natalie Kubasek, University of New Mexico. "The Roots of Chicana Feminist Theater: Voice, Visibility and Disidentification in the Works of Josefina Niggli" (nkubasek@unm.edu)

Cristina Stanciu, Virginia Commonwealth University. "Rites & Rights: Citizenship & Performance in the Americanization Campaigns at the Turn of the Twentieth Century" (cstanciu@vcu.edu)

C. African American Narrative Histories, *Centennial 3*, 8:30-10:00

Moderator: John Lowe, University of Georgia

Lisa Ze Winters, Wayne State University. "Fantastic Geographies: Boundary Crossings and Diaspora in William Wells Brown's *Clotel; or, the President's Daughter*" (lisaze@wayne.edu)

John Lowe, University of Georgia. "Shifting Boundaries of Race and Region in Martin Delany's *Blake"* (jwlowe@uga.edu)

Robert Luckett, Margaret Walker Center , Jackson State University. "Margaret Walker: The Voice of the Invisible Woman in the 20th Century Black Arts Movement" (robert.luckett@jsums.edu)

D. Narrative Structure and Literary History: Ralph Ellison's Meta-Critical Technique, *Grand Ballroom A*, 8:30-10:00

Moderator: Alan Nadel, University of Kentucky

Alan Nadel, University of Kentucky. "The Invisible (Ex-Colored) Man: Ralph Ellison's Eponymous, Anonymous Double Consciousness" (amnade2@uky.edu)

Melanie Masterton, University of California-Riverside. "Posthumous Afterlives: An Ecstatic Reading of Ralph Ellison's Unbound Manuscript" (mmast003@ucr.edu)

Anthony Stewart, Bucknell University. "'there is no such thing as a non sequitor': Ellison's Instruction in Everett's Fiction" (afs006@bucknell.edu)

E. Reconsidering Transnationalism, Cosmopolitanism, and Multiculturalism, *Salon C*, 8:30-10:00

Moderator: Lori Askeland, Wittenberg University

Lori Askeland, Wittenberg University. "'This is Not What Transnationalism is Supposed to Look Like': Jane Jeong Trenka and the Return of the Native Intellectual (laskeland@wittenberg.edu)

Kei Okajima, Waseda University/The State University of New York-Buffalo. "Diaspora in Invisibility: Ralph Ellison and the National Fantasy of the Cold War America" (keiokaji@buffalo.edu)

Sara Pfaff, Brown University. "'Blood Music' and Democratic Disease in Ralph Ellison's *Three Days Before the Shooting*" (sara.pfaff@brown.edu)

F. Mixed-Race Narrative Identities, *Grand Ballroom D-F*, 8:30-10:00

Moderator: Naomi Edwards, Stony Brook University

Vanessa Seals, Stanford University. "'Something More than Brotherly Love': Sex and the Multiracial Sibling" (vlseals@stanford.edu)

Alex Temblador, University of Central Oklahoma. "'She was accusing him of being white': The Precarious Position of Mixed Americans in Academia in Lucinda Roy's 'Effigies'" (alexrenee1408@aol.com)

Naomi Edwards, Stony Brook University. "The Melancholy of Mixed Race: The Amerasian Child as Mediator of History" (naomi.edwards@sunysb.edu)

G. Mapping Modernities, *Crystal Room*, 8:30-10:00

Moderator: Lisa Jong, University of Michigan

Stewart Habig, University of Tulsa. " 'Old Luze ain't been Nowhere': Mapping Cultural Geographies in Albert Murray's *Train Whistle Guitar*" (stewart.habig@gmail.com)

Nilofar Gardezi, University of California-Berkeley. "Alternative Geographies of Community in Robert Hayden's 'Elegies for Paradise Valley'" (ngardezi@berkeley.edu)

Lisa Jong, University of Michigan. "Imagining Indian Spaces: Native Regionalism in John Joseph Mathew's *Wah'Kon-tah*" (lisajong@umich.edu)

SESSION II: 10:15-11:45

A. Decoloniality and Chican@ Literary Sensibilities, *Centennial 1*, 10:15-11:45

Moderator: Cathryn Josefina Merla-Watson

Cathryn Josefina Merla-Watson. "Feeling Chicana: Decolonial Feminism and Love as Resistance in Lorna Dee Cervantes's *Ciento*" (cathryn.watson@gmail.com)

B.V. Olgúin, University of Texas-San Antonio. "Chicano Eros?: Warfare and Chicano Neo-Orientalist Desire from WWII to the War on Terror" (Ben.Olguin@utsa.edu)

Andrew Uzendoski. "Chica(no) Lit: Decolonizing Genre in Nina Marie Martinez's *¡Caramba!*" (uzendoski@gmail.com)

B. Ethnic Mobility and Migration, *Centennial 2*, 10:15-11:45

Moderator: Terry Phelps, Oklahoma City University

Su-ching Huang, East Carolina University. "Journey Home: *Barking Water* as an Oppositional Mobility Narrative" (huangsu@ecu.edu)

Jason Tillis, Oklahoma State University. The Sublime Irony of Human Being in Langston Hughes's *I Wonder as I Wander*"(jtillis@okstate.edu)

Judith E. Martin, Missouri State University. "Colonial Geographies in Therese Robinson's *Die Auswanderer/The Exiles* (1852)" (JudithEMartin@missouristate.edu)

C. Alternate Constructions of Jewish-American Continuity, *Centennial 3*, 10:15-11:45

Moderator: Joe Kraus, University of Scranton

Joe Kraus, University of Scranton. "Assuming the Tradition: Jonathan Lethem, *Dissident Gardens*, and the Jewish-American Writer Circa 2013" (joseph.kraus@scranton.edu)

Maya Socolovsky, University of North Carolina-Charlotte. "Material Commodities and Judaism in a Wireless World: Exploring Allegra Goodman's *The Cookbook Collector*" (msocolove@uncc.edu)

Karen Skinazi , Princeton University. "A New Bintel Brief" (kskinazi@princeton.edu)

D. Distorting, Re-configuring, Questioning: Contemporary Women's Fiction, *Salon A*, 10:15-11:45

Moderator: Regina Bennett, Oklahoma City University

Leah Milne, University of North Carolina-Greensboro. "Ethnic Reflections and Metafictional Distortions in Louise Erdrich's *Shadow Tag*" (lamilne@uncg.edu)

Barbara G. Pierre-Louis, University of Minnesota. "Re-configuring Paternal Legacies through Ritualistic Art: Daughters and Fathers in Contemporary Fiction by Women of African Descent" (barbaraG9LD@gmail.com)

Lesley Larkin, Northern Michigan University. "From Eugenics to Genomics: Medical Exploitation in Toni Morrison's *Home"* (llarkin@nmu.edu)

E. Racial Ambiguity and Passing, *Salon B*, 10:15-11:45

Moderator: Gino Pellegrini, Pierce College

Masami Sugimori, Florida Gulf Coast University. "Crossing Racial and Narrative Barriers: Racial Passing and Modernist Voice in Walter White's *Flight*" (msugimori@fgcu.edu)

Terje Saar-Hambazaza, University of Texas at Dallas. "Crossing Physical and Imagined Boundaries: Nella Larsen's Negotiation of Multiethnic and Biracial Identities" (terje@utdallas.edu)

Gino Pellegrini, Pierce College. "Complicating Race or Reproducing Whiteness? Heidi Durrow and *The Girl Who Fell From the Sky*" (pelleggm@piercecollege.edu)

F. Beyond *Invisible Man*: Perspectives on Ellison's Other Works, *Salon C*, 10:15-11:45

Moderator: Paul Devlin, Stony Brook University

Jeanetta Calhoun Mish, Oklahoma City University. "Black and White and Red All Over: Blackness, Whiteness, and Indian-ness in the Writings of Ralph Ellison" (jcmish@okcu.edu)

Suzanne J. Spoor, Anne Arundel Community College. "Orality in Ralph Ellison's Short Stories" (sjspoor@aacc.edu)

Jennifer Colatosti, University of Kansas. Blissful Integration of Identity: Reclaiming the Past and (Re)Writing History in Ralph Ellison's Essays and *Juneteenth* (jencola@ku.edu)

G. Latino/as and Narrative Visual Media, *Grand Ballroom D-F*, 10:15-11:45

Moderator: Christopher Gonzalez, Texas A&M University-Commerce

Samuel Saldivar, Michigan State University. "Independent Eyes: Immigration through the Audiovisual Lens" (saldiv@msu.edu)

Mauricio Espinoza, Ohio State University. "*Familia* Comes First: Traditional and Alternative Constructions of Latino/a Family in Hero-Themed Comics, Animated TV Shows, and Film" (espinoza.15@osu.edu)

Christopher Gonzalez, Texas A&M University-Commerce. "Mario and Gilbert Hernandez's *Citizen Rex*, Robot Consciousness, and the Chicano Movement" (Chris.Gonzalez@tamuc.edu)

H. Class Politics and Aesthetics in Ethnic Literatures I, *Crystal Room*, 10:15-11:45

Moderator: James Zeigler, University of Oklahoma

Myka Tucker-Abramson, Boston University. "Housing Shocks in Harlem: Surrealist Aesthetics and the Politics of Housing in *Invisible Man"* (mykata@bu.edu)

Joseph Darda, University of Connecticut. "Universality at War: Race, Nation, and Communism in Chester Himes's *If He Hollers Let Him Go*" (joseph.darda@uconn.edu)

James Zeigler, University of Oklahoma. "Red Scare Territory Revisited" (jzeigler@ou.edu)

12:15-1:45 (Grand Ballroom D-F)

MEMBER LUNCHEON w/ PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS AND AWARDS, FOLLOWED BY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SESSION III: 2:00-3:30

A. Language, Sermon, Oppression, and Prophecy in the African American Church Tradition, *Centennial 1*, 2:00-3:30

Moderator: Christopher Bell, University of North Georgia-Gainesville

John-Mark Hart, University of Oklahoma. "God's Trombones: The Prophetic Poetics of James Weldon Johnson" (John.M.Hart-1@ou.edu)

Jonquil Bailey, University of Miami. "Breaking the Back of Words: Sound and Subversion in Toni Morrison's *Beloved*" (j.bailey5@umiami.edu)

McKinley E. Melton, Gettysburg College. "Sermon on the Mic: Remixing the Southern Preacher on the Hip Hop Stage" (mmelton@gettysburg.edu)

B. Women Mapping the Territory and Cultural Geographies of Academia: A Roundtable Presented by The Women of Color Caucus, *Centennial 2*, 2:00-3:30

Moderator: Sherry Johnson, Grand Valley State University

A. Yemisi Jimoh, University of Massachusetts Amherst (jimoh@afroam.umass.edu)
Wenying Xu, Chatham University (wxu@chatham.edu)
Marta Caminero-Santangelo, University of Kansas (camsan@ku.edu)

C. Critical Lenses of Ralph Ellison, *Centennial 3*, 2:00-3:30

Moderator: Michael Borshuk, Texas Tech University

Doreen Dong Xiaoxi, University of Hong Kong. The 'Lower Frequencies' of *Invisible Man* and Ralph Ellison Study in China" (doreenxixi@gmail.com)

Yukuo Wang, University of Massachusetts Amherst. "Ralph Ellison's Literary Criticism" (yukuowang@126.com)

Michael Borshuk, Texas Tech University. "'Not Just About Criticism, But About Life': Ralph Ellison and the Practice of Literary Criticism" (michael.borshuk@ttu.edu)

D. Writing Resistance, *Salon A*, 2:00-3:30

Moderator: Robin Lucy, Eastern Michigan University

Meta L. Schettler, California State University, Fresno. "Folk Culture, African Heritage and Democracy: Black Writers Writing Resistance" (mschettl@csufresno.edu)

Diane Dowdey, Sam Houston State University. "Whose Minding the Children? The Nanny Novel as a Glimpse at Multi-Ethnic Households" (eng_dxd@shsu.edu)

Robin Lucy, Eastern Michigan University. "The Road (Not) Taken: Lloyd L. Brown's *Iron City* and Ellison's New (Negro) Proletariat" (rlucy@emich.edu)

E. The Black Intellectual as Activist, *Salon C*, 2:00-3:30

Moderator: Sterling Bland, Rutgers University

Runrun Pan, Zhejiang University. "Back to the 'Front' Territory: *New Challenge* Reviewed" (runrunpan@afroam.umass.edu)

Patrick Elliot Alexander, University of Mississippi. "The Jailhouse Jeremiad: King's 'Letter from Birmingham Jail' as Vernacular Artistry and Activism" (pealexan@olemiss.edu)

Sterling Bland, Rutgers University. "Being Ralph Ellison: Remaking the Black Public Intellectual in the Age of Civil Rights" (slbland@andromeda.rutgers.edu)

F. Graphic Narratives, *Grand Ballroom D-F*, 2:00-3:30

Moderator: S. C. Gooch, Purdue University

JoAnne Ruvoli, Ball State University. "Local Histories in Lila Quintero's *Darkroom*: Feminist Mapping of Inter-Ethnicities" (joanneruvoli@yahoo.com)

Jorge Santos, University of Connecticut. "Movement through the Borderlands and Graphic Revisions in Rhode Montijo's *Pablo's Inferno*" (jorge.santos235@gmail.com)

S.C. Gooch, Purdue University. "'All Dirty with Blood': Gilbert Hernandez's Errata Stigmata" (sgooch@purdue.edu)

G. Pushing Literary and Generic Boundaries, *Crystal Room*, 2:00-3:30

Moderator: Kyle King, Pennsylvania State University

Amber Rose Gonzàlez, University of California-Santa Barbara. "Dualities for Healing: Violence and Love in the *Mujeres de Maiz* Literary and Arts 'Zine'" (am.roseg@gmail.com)

Anna Schmidt, Saint Louis University. "Entanglements of Race, Gender, and Religion in Thylias Moss's 'The Glory Prelude'" (aschmi48@slu.edu)

Kyle King, Pennsylvania State University. "Post-Generic Thinking and Colson Whitehead's *Zone One*" (krk5171@psu.edu)

SESSION IV: 3:45-5:15

A. Succeeding on the Academic Job Market: A Professionalization Roundtable, *Centennial 1*, 3:45-5:15

Moderator: Melissa Dennihy, Queensborough Community College

Martha Cutter, University of Connecticut (martha.cutter@uconn.edu)

Christopher Gonzalez, Texas A&M University-Commerce (Chris.Gonzalez@tamuc.edu)

Amritjit Singh, Ohio University (singha@ohio.edu)

B. "The Familiar Music Had Demanded Action": Music and the Geographies of Cultural Meaning in U.S. Literature, *Centennial 3*, 3:45-5:15

Moderator and Commentator: Cheryl Higashida, University of Colorado, Boulder

Rachel Rubin, University of Massachusetts Boston. "'He Promised Her Money and Other Fine Things': Mildred Haun, Murder Ballads, and the 'Museumification of Appalachian Culture" (Rachel.rubin@umb.edu)

Emily Lordi, University of Massachusetts Amherst. "'How I Got Over': Ellison in the Soul Era" (elordi@english.umass.edu)

James Smethurst, University of Massachusetts Amherst. "'Formal Renditions': Revisiting the Baraka-Ellison Debate Fifty Years Later" (jsmethur@afroam.umass.edu)

C. Making Space, Constructing Meaning, *Salon A*, 3:45-5:15

Moderator: Shaila Mehra, Oklahoma State University

Joel Wendland, Grand Valley State University. "A Geosemiotics of Autobiography: A Spatial Reading of Social Mobility Narratives in the Late 20th Century" (wendlajo@gvsu.edu)

Chad Jewett, University of Connecticut. "The Monumental Southern Space in Ralph Ellison's 'A Party Down at the Square'" (chad.jewett@uconn.edu)

Shaila Mehra, Oklahoma State University. "The Terrority, Reimagined: Toni Morrison's *Paradise*" (shaila.mehra@gmail.com)

D. Politics, Poetics, and Place, *Salon B*, 3:45-5:15

Moderator: Vanessa Valdès, The City College of New York

Michelle Brittan, University of Southern California. "Rhizomatic Conjunctions in the Poetry of Li-Young Lee and Larry Levis" (brittan@usc.edu)

Hyo Kim, Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York. "Sinthome Poetics of John Yau's *Genghis Chan: Private Eye*"(hyokwang@hotmail.com)

Vanessa Valdès, The City College of New York. "'Made our gods foreign to us': Spirituality in the Works of Sandra Maria Esteves and Ntozake Shange" (vvaldes@ccny.cuny.edu)

E. Postmodern and Postracial Identities, *Salon C*, 3:45-5:15

Moderator: Leah Milne, University of North Carolina-Greensboro

Andrew Spencer, Texas A&M University-Commerce. "Schrödinger's Cat and the Mind of the Storyworld"(aspencer6@leomail.tamuc.edu)

Brittany Miller, University of Southern California. "Post-Race Fantasy IRL: Reading Internet Identity in Parmy Olsons' *We Are Anonymous*" (brittany_miller@icloud.com)

Casey Hayman, University of Massachusetts Amherst. "'Black Is...Black Ain't': Ralph Ellison's Meta-Black Aesthetic and the 'End' of African American Literature" (chayman@english.umass.edu)

F. Mimicry and Masquerade *Grand Ballroom D-F*, 3:45-5:15

Moderator: Roland Leander Williams, Temple University

Azusa Nishimoto, Aoyama Gakuin University. "Dangerous Masquerade: Nella Larsen's 'Sanctuary' and Plagiary Scandal" (memesute@yahoo.co.jp)

Chih-Ping Chen, Alma College. "Shirley Temple: The Trickster of Mimicry to Her 'Other' American Sisters" (chen@alma.edu)

Roland Leander Williams, Temple University. "'The little man who isn't there': How Bliss Proteus Rinehart Betokens A Paragon of Discretion in *Invisible Man*" (roland@temple.edu)

G. Special Session 4:00-5:30 ,*Crystal Room*

The Daughter of Dawn (1920)

Screening of selected clips with commentary by Dorothy Whitehorse DeLaune, Kiowa elder and representatives from the Oklahoma History Center

More info about this film and its restoration at http://www.okhistory.org/research/daughterofdawn

5:30-7:30 DINNER ON YOUR OWN

7:30-9:00 Poetry Reading And Book Signing, Grand Ballroom

JOE NEVAQUAYA AND JOY HARJO

For more info about these poets, please visit: http://joyharjo.com/
http://newsok.com/norman-poet-joe-dale-tate-nevaquaya-is-honored-for-19-year-old-manuscript/article/3675781

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

Continental Breakfast 7:30-8:30 AM, Grand Ballroom Reception
Registration 8:00-11:00
Book Exhibits, Grand Ballroom Reception

SESSION I: 8:00-9:15

A. Cultural Resistance in Works by Carlos Bulosan, Hisaye Yamamoto, Marilyn Chin, and Ha Jin, *Centennial 1*, 8:00-9:15

Moderator: Yichin Shen, California State University, Fullerton

Laura Macarewich, California State University-Fullerton. "*America is in the Heart*: In Search of a Colorblind American Dream" (lhmacarewich@cox.net)

Pamela Simon, California State University-Fullerton. "'O Shining Sorrow': The Failure of Resistance in Hisaye Yamamoto's 'Epithalamium'" (psachiye@gmail.com)

Ammanda Moore, Norco College-California. "Resisting Stereotypes with Chopsticks and Gimlets in *Revenge of the Mooncake Vixen* by Marilyn Chin" (ammanda.moore@rccd.edu)

Yichin Shen, California State University-Fullerton. "The Battle of Chickens: Gastronomical Conflicts and Cultural Resistance in 'After Cowboy Chicken Came to Town' by Ha Jin" (yshen@exchange.fullerton.edu)

B. Black and White and Red All Over: Literary Allegiances and Lineages between African America and Russia, *Centennial 2*, 8:00-9:15

Moderator: Nicholas Rinehart, Harvard University

Raquel Greene, Grinnell College. "In to Africa: The Soviet Union and its Civilizing Mission in the 1920's" (greener@grinnell.edu)

John MacKay, Yale University. "True Songs of Freedom: *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in the Soviet 1920s" (john.mackay@yale.edu)

Nicholas Rinehart, Harvard University. "Nabokov in Black: Two Sketches" (ntrinehart@gmail.com)

C. "New Immigrants": Negotiating National Identities, *Centennial 3*, 8:00-9:15

Moderator: Corinna K. Lee, Marquette University

Orit Rabkin, Ben Gurion University. "Crossing Borders from Jew to American? The Case of Mary Antin's *The Promised Land*." (orabkin@post.bgu.ac.il)

Daniel Morse, University of Edinburgh. "False Idols: Transgressive Education in Jewish New Immigrant Fiction" (dmorse2@staffmail.ed.ac.uk)

Corinna K. Lee, Marquette University. "Children of the 'Ghetto': James T. Farrell and Michael Gold" (corinna.lee@marquette.edu)

D. Ellison and Women, *Salon A*, 8:00-9:15

Moderator: Keith Byerman, Indiana State University

Paul Devlin, Stony Brook University. "Exploring the Possibility of Ann Petry's Influence on Ralph Ellison: Music and Memory in 'Solo on the Drums' and *Three Days Before the Shooting*..." (paulpdevlin@gmail.com)

Meina Yates-Richard. Rice University. "'WHAT IS YOUR MOTHER'S NAME?': Echoes of Black Female Pain in Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*" (mfy1@rice.edu)

Keith Byerman, Indiana State University. "Female Characters in the Short Fiction of Ralph Ellison" (Keith.Byerman@indstate.edu)

E. Reflections on Asian American and Asian Diasporic Literature and Criticism, *Salon C*, 8:00-9:15
Moderator: Wenxin Li, Suffolk Community College
Paul Petrovic, University of Tulsa. "'Seeing the Culture from a Position of Privilege': Class Divisions and Asian American Auto-Critique in Don Lee's *The Collective*" (paulpetrovic@gmail.com)
Lingyan Yang, Indiana University of Pennsylvania. "A Brief Intellectual History of Asian Pacific American and Asian Diasporic Cultural Criticism" (lingyan@iup.edu)
Wenxin Li, Suffolk Community College. "The Fruit of Labor of a Diasporic Imagination: Eileen Chang's *The Rice Sprout Song*" (wli79@yahoo.com)

F. The Limits of Liminality *Crystal Room*, 8:00-9:15
Moderator: Regina Clemens Fox, Oklahoma City University
Rachel Luckenbill, Duquesne University. "Crossing Boundaries & Seeking Reconciliation in Louise Erdrich's *The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse*" (luckenbillr@duq.edu)
Amber James, Oklahoma State University. "Liminal Spaces, Liminal Identities: Mexico-United States Border Narratives as Travel Writing" (amber.james.craig@gmail.com)
Colleen G. Eils, The University of Texas at Austin. "The Limits of Literature in Salvador Plascencia's *The People of Paper*" (colleen.eils@utexas.edu)

G. Blues, Jazz, and African American Literature, *Grand Ballroom D-F*, 8:00-9:15
Moderator: Daniel Barlow, University of Pittsburgh
Kimberly Mack, University of California-Los Angeles. "The Space Between: The Politics of Silence in American Jazz and Blues Fiction" (mackprod@hotmail.com)
Damien Weaver, University of Massachusetts Amherst. "Jazz Liberalism and the Literature of Change" (damienweaver@hotmail.com)
Daniel Barlow, University of Pittsburgh. "Pushing Play: Sound, Pedagogy, and the Geopolitics of Form in *Bailey's Café*" (dpb29@pitt.edu)

SESSION II: 9:30-10:45

A. Shadow Ballers/Pitchin' Men: Ralph Ellison and Narratives of the Black Male Athlete in the US: A Roundtable, *Centennial 1*, 9:30-10:45
Michael A. Antonucci, Keene State College (mantonucci@keene.edu)
Garin Cycholl, University of Illinois at Chicago (gcycho1@uic.edu)
Sterling D. Plumpp, Professor Emeritus, University of Illinois at Chicago

B. Getting Started in Scholarly Publishing: A *MELUS* Roundtable, *Centennial 2*, 9:30-10:45
Moderator: Amritjit Singh, Ohio University
James Buss, Salisbury University (jjbuss@salisbury.edu)
Keith Byerman, Indiana State University (Keith.Byerman@indstate.edu)
Martha Cutter, *MELUS* editor (martha.cutter@uconn.edu)
Catherine Fung, *MELUS* Book Review Editor (cfung@bentley.edu)
John Lowe, University of Georgia (jwlowe@uga.edu)

C. Translated Selves: Language and Belonging, *Centennial 3*, 9:30-10:45
Moderator: Melissa Dennihy, Queensborough Community College-CUNY
Gretchen Busl, Texas Woman's University. "'No single, adequate translation': Working against the Monolingual Paradigm in Multiethnic Women's Poetry" (gbusl@mail.twu.edu)
Carly Houston, University of Massachusetts Amherst. "Ora V. Eddleman Reed and the Politics of 'Indian English'" (chouston@english.umass.edu)
Melissa Dennihy, Queensborough Community College-CUNY. "'They Mustn't Take Your Mind and Use You': Assimilative Schooling and Linguistic Insubordination in Nicholosa Mohr's

D. From Chesnutt to Ellison, *Salon A*, 9:30-10:45

Moderator: SallyAnn Ferguson, University of North Carolina-Greensboro

Francesca Sawaya, University of Oklahoma. "The 'Guilt Dress' of Philanthropy in Chestnutt and Ellison" (fsawaya@ou.edu)

Pearlie Peters, Rider University. "African American Folktales and The Development of African American Literature from Charles Chesnutt to Zora Neale Hurston, J. Mason Brewer, and Ralph Ellison" (petersp@rider.edu)

SallyAnn Ferguson, University of North Carolina-Greensboro. "Riots as Manhood Traumas: The Examples of Chestnutt's Dr. Miller and Ellison's *Invisible Man*" (fersal20@aol.com)

E. Regions of Race and Ethnicity, *Salon B*, 9:30-10:45

Moderator: Christopher Keller, University of Texas-Pan American

Long Le-Khac, Stanford University. "Retrofitting the Regionalist Story Cycle: Mapping Communities of Fate in Aimee Phan's *We Should Never Meet*" (llekhac@stanford.edu)

Hyo Woo, University of Pittsburgh. "Chinatown as a Cultural Lingua Franca in *East Goes West*" (hyw4@pitt.edu)

Christopher Keller, University of Texas-Pan American. "'The Struggle has always been inner': Gloria Anzaldua's (Border)Land Images and the (R)evolutionary Steps toward Environmental Change" (keller@utpa.edu)

F. Class Politics and Aesthetics in Ethnic Literatures II, *Salon C*, 9:30-10:45

Moderator: Adam Meehan, University of Arizona

Dennis López, California State University-Long Beach. "Belaboring Difference: Race, Class, and Power in William Attaway's *Blood on the Forge*" (Dennis.Lopez@csulb.edu)

Greg Gabrellas. "On Writing Modern Myths: Richard Wright and Ralph Ellison in the History of Psychoanalysis" (greg.gabrellas@gmail.com)

Adam Meehan, University of Arizona. "Black and Red: Ellison, Ideology, and the Problematics of Black Marxism" (ameehan@email.arizona.edu)

G. Teaching Multi-Ethnic American Literatures, *Grand Ballroom D-F*, 9:30-10:45

Moderator: Cristina Stanciu, Virginia Commonwealth University

Anastasia Turner, University of North Georgia. "Teaching *Tropic of Orange* with Geographic Information" (Anastasia.Turner@ung.edu)

J.J. Butts, Simpson College. "Teaching Multiethnic Literature: from Midtown to Midwest" (jj.butts@simpson.edu)

Mary Anne Lyons, University of Illinois-Chicago. "Balancing Content and Context: Teaching Native American Literatures in a Gen. Ed. Setting" (mlyons4@uic.edu)

J. Stephen Pearson, University of North Georgia. "Generalism and Multiculturalism: Integrating Multicultural Literature into the Non-MC Class Room" (Steve.Pearson@ung.edu)

JoAnne Ruvoli, Ball State University. "Teaching Inter-Ethnic Encounters: Conflicts and Alliances in Italian American Literature" (joanneruvoli@yahoo.com)

H. The Politics of Ethnic Representation in Children's and Young Adult Literature, *Crystal Room*, 9:30-10:45

Moderator: Liz Willner, Oklahoma City University

Jackie K. White, Lewis University. "Julia Alvarez's New England as New Territory of Pan-Latinidad" (WhiteJa@lewisu.edu)

Yollotl Lopez, California State Northridge. "Jewish Encounters: Portrayal of Interethnic Relationships by Non-Jewish Authors in Young Adult Novels" (yollotlazure@gmail.com)

Out-of-town guests, please note: Oklahoma City tests its emergency systems every Saturday at noon. Do not be alarmed if you hear a tornado siren!

SESSION III: 11:00-12:15

A. Trauma, Violence, and the Shaping of Narrative, *Centennial 1*, 11:00-12:15

Moderator: Stella Setka, Loyola Marymount University

Mahmoud Zidan, Binghamton University. "The Violent Body in James Baldwin's *If Beale Street Could Talk*" (mzidan1@binghamton.edu)

Heather Hathaway, Marquette University. "The Trauma and Rhetoric of Silence in Japanese American Internment Literature" (heather.hathaway@marquette.edu)

Stella Setka, Loyola Marymount University. "'Everything is past and present': The Place of the Phantasmic in Contemporary Native American Fiction"(professorsetka@gmail.com)

B. Space/Place/Race, *Salon A*, 11:00-12:15

Moderator:

Caitlin Hudgins, Temple University. "Staging Victory and Fleeing the Scene: Grounding Imagination in Americo Paredes' *George Washington Gomez*" (tub73317@temple.edu)

Erin Murrah-Mandril, University of New Mexico. "Specters of Adina de Zavala's *History and Legends of the Alamo"* (emmurah@unm.edu)

Maria Seger, University of Connecticut. "'NO TRESPASSIN': The Property-Based Logic of Racial Violence in Richard Wright's *Uncle Tom's Children.*" (maria.seger@uconn.edu)

Sandra M. Grayson, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. "Border Crossings in 'Amnesty,' *Parable of the Sower*, and *The Epic of Son-Jara"* (sgrayson@uwm.edu)

C. Queer Disruptions, Alternative Masculinities, *Salon A*, 11:00-12:15

Moderator: Douglas Steward, Modern Language Association

Derrick King, University of Florida. "The Social Barriers of Neoliberalism, New Cultural Styles, and the Potentialities of Utopian Hope in the Work of Samuel Delany" (dk987@ufl.edu)

William Thomas McBride, Illinois State University. "Who's Afraid of…Oh Snap! Black Queer Snapping Comes Full Circle" (wmcbrid@ilstu.edu)

Youngju Lee, Sogang University. "From Boys to Men: African American Manhood in James Baldwin's *Going to Meet the Man*" (iamleeyj@gmail.com)

D. The Indigenous West: Iconography, Indigenous Identity, and Nation Building, *Salon C*, 11:00-12:15

Moderator: Andrea Dominguez, DeVry University

Andrea Dominguez, DeVry University. "Indian Presence (and Absence): Ishi and Racial Memory in the Urban West" (adominguez@devry.edu)

Anita Huizar-Hernandez, University of California-San Diego. "The Indian Who Would Not Vanish: Geronimo and the Battle to Define the West" (anitah.h@gmail.com)

Lisa Thomas, Schoolwide, Inc. "The Texas 'Frontier': Quanah Parker and Liminality in the West" (lisathomasucsd@gmail.com)

E. Ralph Ellison and the Art of Civil Rights, *Grand Ballroom D-F*, 11:00-12:15

Moderator: Shanna Greene Benjamin, Grinnell College

Lena Hill, University of Iowa. "Staging Equality beyond *Invisible Man*" (lena-hill@uiowa.edu)

Michael Hill, University of Iowa. "Unsigned Petitions: Ralph Ellison's Alternative Endorsement of Toni Morrison" (michael-hill@uiowa.edu)

Horace Porter, University of Iowa. "Who Speaks for the Negro: Ralph Ellison and the Promise of Democracy" (horace-porter@uiowa.edu)

F. Inter-ethnic Considerations, *Crystal Room*, 11:00-12:15

Moderator: Will Harris, United Arab Emirates University

Agnieszka Tusynska, Queensborough Community College - CUNY. "Anna Lucasta's Transracial Journeys" (ATuszynska@qcc.cuny.edu)

Trent Masiki, University of Massachusetts Amherst. "Afro-American Narrative Strategies in Contemporary U.S. Afro-Latino Literature" (masiki@afroam.umass.edu)

Will Harris, United Arab Emirates University. "Muslim American Slave Narratives and the African American Canon: A Dis-integrating Interrogative?" (wilhare@hotmail.com)

Saturday, 1:00-5:00

ELLISON AT 100: A CENTENNIAL SYMPOSIUM, GRAND BALLROOM

(BOX LUNCHES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS)

see separate program in conference packet for details

5:30- 7:30

POST-SYMPOSIUM RECEPTION, RED EARTH MUSEUM GALLERY (next door to the Skirvin Hotel)

SUNDAY, MARCH 9
SPECIAL PROGRAM SESSIONS (subject to change)

A. Guided Bus Tour of OKC's Historic Deep Deuce neighborhood, with jazz brunch at Urban Roots—by reservation only, additional fee will apply Departs 10:00 AM

B. Oklahoma's Jazz Hall of Fame in Tulsa, 10:00-10:45, Crystal Room
A presentation by Jeff Kos, Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame
http://www.okjazz.org/

C. "Native Tribes of Oklahoma," 11:00-11:45, Crystal Room
A presentation by Dr. Blue Clark, Oklahoma City University/Muskogee Nation

D. Guided walking tour of the Oklahoma City National Memorial (weather permitting)
with H. Brooke Hessler, Oklahoma City University
Departs from Skirvin Lobby at 11:30 AM http://www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org/

Ads to be listed in the back of the program in this order. **All B&W, full-page, unless otherwise specified**:

Vintage Randomhouse
Oxford University Press
Red Earth MFA and Chickasaw Nation ad (whatever they ask us to use)—1/2 page each
Oklahoma University Press
Full Circle Books
MELUS 2015 ad/Call-for-proposals